I worked with the Finnish S&R for a few months 2 years ago. Some freaky shit in those forests.

- >Get a call about some hiking party that had been missing for 3 weeks
- >They had gone missing in a part of the Tagia forest a few miles away from where I was based
- (In case you don't know, the Tagia is a fucking massive set of forests spanning from Norway into most of Russia)
- >We all pull on our boots and grab our packs and set out for a hike
- >A few miles into the forests we can tell something isn't right
- >Some of the older guys kept saying that weird shit keeps happening around here, one reason keeps being mentioned
- >Forests spirits
- >I ignore this being the reasonable person I am and we eventually find the hikers half-staved in a clearing
- >The hikers looked really shaken and said that "Something was keeping them in the clearing"

Fast forwards meaningless scene setting

- >We were escorting these guys back to civilisation when I heard some sort of singing (seriously)
- >I stop to try and see if anyone else is in the area when something shook the lower boughs of some trees making snow fall off them
- >A figure/shade glided through the snow, looked at me and smiled
- >At this point I'm shitting myself so I run as fast as I fucking can away from this thing whilst it carries on singing
- >I get back to the others 10 minutes later and the older guy says something I'll never forget
- >"You saw her didn't you? Mielikki?"
- >I nod and start drinking heavily once we got back to base.
- >Turns out that Mielikki is a kind spirit, a healer, didn't feel like it at the time

I've been back to that area a couple of times and seen other weird shit, I'll post more if people want. I know my writing style is awful. Still here, most of my experiences follow the same vein but here's another

- >Just started working with the S&R team, still trying to improve my Finnish
- >Once again, we're alerted to a group of hikers, this time stuck in a blizzard
- >We get to them in just about enough time to keep them alive >Sitting around a fire waiting for morning when all of a sudden the wind utterly drops and the clouds disperse allowing us to see the aurora.
- >Suddenly chills and paranoia
- >Everyone decides it's time to head into the tents to sleep leaving me a 2 other S&R guys talking about mythology
- >We're sitting around doing nothing when something makes the older guy, Dan, stand up and whispers "mitä vittua on että" (what the fuck is that)
- >We look to the area he was pointing and we see a silhouette of a man walking across a snowfield
- >This guy looked big, I mean at least 7 foot tall and bulky.
- >I go to call out to him but Dan grabs my arm, looks me in the eye and shakes his head.
- >We watch this guy power through the snow and disappear back into the forest
- >The next morning I get up a little earlier to have a look at where he walked and found no tracks whatsoever.
- >Odd seeing as it didn't snow that night.
- >Walk back was painless but didn't ask about that guy.

If you want, I'm still in contact with those guys so I can drop an email asking about it. They'll most likely get back reasonably quickly assuming they're not in the field.

[After taking questions from users.]

Have I missed anything? Any other questions you guys want to ask. This guy is a legend and has seen pretty much everything.

"Hei Dan, miten on kaikki takaisin asemalle? Olen suunnittelun

vierailulla jossain vaiheessa pian. Minä pitää sinut ajan tasalla tiedot

This is going to be a long one, hope you don't mind me typing in English. You could use the practice anyway!

Remember back when I was new we got a call out during a blizzard. Once we found the hikers the wind dropped and the clouds just disappeared?

I was wondering if you know anything about that man we saw walking through the snow that night. It's been on my mind for a while now.

Ever since I had that experience with Mielikki I've been really interested in getting back into the Tagia and seeing what else I can find!

Hope everything is going well and best of luck in any future call outs!

Odotan kuulla sinusta pian"

[An hour later.]

They got back to me guys! I sent a follow up email with things I forgot, hence why they know /x/ is involved. Here's the full email, small talk and all.

"Hei Matt, hyvä kuulla sinusta.

Kirota, your Finnish has got sloppy, it is you that needs the practice! Glad to hear that you are planning a comeback, we will see if we can get you back on the team for your stay.

Olen yllättynyt olet saanut mukana /x/. Olemme kuulleet niistä, mutta ei koskaan todella vaivautunut katsomaan. Luemme viestisi nyt! Everyone is fine here, the amount of basic incidents we have had has gone down recently, leave us more time sitting around playing cards. The new girl, Alissa, seems alright, she did not get scared or dizzy at her first corpse which is always a good sign. I hope that is morbid enough for you, sick bastard!

Yes I remember that night well. To my mind what we saw was Tapio, god of the forest. The fact you claim to have seen Mielikki makes me even more sure of this.

He roams the forests at night as a protector but he is quick to anger, this is why I stopped you from calling him. He is the reason why the winds died and the revontulet came out.

This will make me sound older then I am, a depressing feeling, but you are very, very lucky to have seen the God of the forest and his wife. I am glad that you remember these events.

You will have to make a visit soon, I have a feeling that you will like Alissa.

Say hi to /x/ from us and get your damn citizenship.

Meidän ovi on aina avoinna sinulle

Dan"